

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **KENAGH**  
County : **LONGFORD**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 15-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	35	35
The Built Environment	40	30	30
Landscaping	40	24	24
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18	18
Litter Control	40	33	32
Tidiness	20	13	12
Residential Areas	30	22	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	32	32
General Impression	10	6	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>211</b>

## **Kenagh, County Longford**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Thank you for your neatly typed questionnaire, the map and the leaflet on Kenagh which were most interesting,. The adjudicators still await a short 3/5 year plan outlining your main objectives over the period including target projects dealing with wildlife, litter, approach roads, the presentation of buildings, landscaping etc. Well done in maintaining the standard this year. The village has come on considerably over the last number of years.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The new building being completed at the corner onto the main street (formerly El Paso) was noted. This is such a strategic location that any development will make a significant impact on the village. St. Dominic's Hall was reasonable though some weeds were evident in the forecourt area. The Church of Saint George was well presented and the building beside it should be restored. Some of the shops of the main street had many bits and pieces outside them. It is important that use of the pavement is not impeded by these. Some signs could still be changed eg. the 7Up sign outside Candy Store. Mack's Shack looked well as does the clock tower. The church has some fine planting and was well presented though it will need a coat of paint before next year. The GAA ground had work being carried on and needed to be tidied up. The clubhouse required repainting and litter bins. The school was nicely kept and had some nice planting . Newman's looked very well, as did the Post Office. The Enterprise Centre and Tourist Information was well presented though the kerbing will require repainting before next year.

### **LANDSCAPING**

New trees at the Parish Hall look well and tree planting at the canal is commended. The colour scheme of the pump, railings and bench outside the clock tower should be changed for a more formal one colour scheme. At present, apart from being very bright, the bright green and white clashes with the pink/purple hanging baskets. Has the planting of trees been considered in the centre of the village - a couple would make all the difference. It is important to include as much indigenous or native flora in landscaping a rural town - cordylines are a bit exotic for the midlands of Ireland. There is also no need to put flowers around the base of trees as they compete for water.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

The Royal Canal restoration project had done some good work with well presented fencing This is a main wildlife area. There are also some nice wooded areas which offer different habitats. These can be taken in on the walk outlined in the small leaflet and include the dovecote and mill. This route could be signed and information on the whole environment - birds, insects, flora and fauna - could be included; a possible school project.

## **LITTER CONTROL**

Very little litter was evident and litter bins were in use. Well done again this year.

## **TIDINESS**

The lack of litter gave a generally tidy appearance. However, some grassy areas required further cutting back. A number of buildings on the main street and the Ardagh road would benefit from minor facelifts. There were also a few weedy areas and this detracted from the overall tidiness.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

The houses were generally well maintained throughout the village. Houses on the Ballymahon road varied - some were weedy. New houses opposite Brookfield require further landscaping. Cartron road had a good presentation of houses; however, the play area for children requires better maintenance. The estate on the Longford side was well presented. A few trees in the centre amenity area would look well.

## **ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS**

The approach road from the Corlea Centre was well presented. Hedges were being cut as adjudication was taking place. Selective cutting of the hedges is preferred rather than mass cutting back. The signpost to Kenagh was well presented though I would suggest more permanent planting than the annuals used. Ballymahon road was well presented and well cut back. Trees need to be maintained and the pump needs a clean-up. Plants obscure the Kenagh sign on the Ardagh road - take note to include more prostrate type plants next year! This road was well cut back. The Methodist Church on Ardagh road is a gem waiting to be restored. Congratulations on the use of Irish language in the approach road signs. The Longford approach road was generally well kept, though there was some debris and old tree material that needed to be removed.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Kenagh was well presented on the day of adjudication. There is great potential for further improvement and this will stand to you as you compete in the higher ranks of the competition. Objectives need to be set out. A colour co-ordinated programme of landscaping featuring native species could be considered throughout the village so that a greater impact is made.

## **SECOND ADJUDICATION (9/8/97)**

The entry roads are very well maintained and have some very fine features associated with the drive into the centre of the village. The road linking with Ardagh has a very strong axial view to the clock tower and this could do with the overhead wires being placed underground at this one spot, as quite a number of them seem to collect in this one location. Newman's shop is well presented and the flower box colours compliment the shop which is an important design issue often not considered with hanging baskets and flowers. There is a lot of seasonal planting which

provides exceptional colour but consideration should be given to the more permanent perennial planters. The use of flower beds at difficult areas of maintenance is a very good idea and is effectively employed at strategic locations. The wall roses beside Egan's shop represent a method of permanent plantings which could be extended throughout the village. Consideration should be given to a simple palette of native trees for street planting in future years. There is one element that takes away from the efforts spent on tidiness and this is the state of the footways. These seem to vary throughout the village, but in particular the surfaces at Fayne's corner are very poorly drained and perhaps the Local Authority could help with your endeavors by re-surfacing this much used spot. The new works at the canal should be a great asset to the village when completed, while the restoration of the Dove House must be complimented as it will preserve this rather unique element of rural architecture.